

July 1 , 2005 - Commissioner J.David Donahue Sets Guidance for Department.

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On June 28-29, the second Superintendent's Conference was held at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Indiana, hosted by the Department of Criminology. The conference was attended by facility superintendents, parole supervisors and division directors representing the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC).

Commissioner J. David Donahue highlighted the 150-day accomplishments of the Department and emphasized Employees, Efficiencies and Effectiveness.

Milestones for the Department included operating on a flat-line budget, while accomplishing new and innovative ideas with speed.

Successes Include:

Launched 99-cent menu provided by Aramark for the offender population, effective today, saving over \$11 million dollars for the tax payers. Another benefit of Aramark is the "Inmate to Workmate" Program. It nicely aligns with the Department's existing re-entry initiatives. It is designed to train inmates in the food service business and prepare them for future employment in the food service industry.

Opened two meth treatment units, catching nation-wide attention. The first program began in April at Miami Correctional Facility and was replicated in June at Wabash Valley. The intensive program, Clean Lifestyles is Freedom Forever (CLIFF) teaches offenders how to change their lifestyles.

Created Advisory Boards for each DOC facility. Everything we do must prove an added-value to the public and tie in with re-entry. Our number one priority is public safety.

Partnered with sister agencies to expand the use of inmate work crews and save tax payer dollars. The Department's work crews provide approximately 3,500 hours of community service daily; 17,000 hours weekly; and 850,000 hours of community service annually. These services translate to a value of over \$4,000,000 for the taxpayers of Indiana.

Kicked off three pilot programs, Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS), which emphasizes spiritual or character development as a central theme of its curriculum. PLUS is a faith and character-based initiative geared towards equipping its participant to explore and choose alternatives to criminal thinking and behavior through an emphasis on spiritual, moral and character development and life-skills training.

Launched Commissioner Donahue's Public Service Announcements: "Be Smart; Choose Freedom" campaign for Indiana.

"Everything we do as a department must provide value to our stakeholders," said J. David Donahue. Governor Daniels has challenged us all to expect more from state government and to find "new solutions...and unified purpose. He has challenged us to take aim high."

Commissioner Donahue concluded the meeting by reminding staff that, "sustained success demands sustained structure."

"It's about employees, efficiencies and effectiveness. I expect you to sustain performance, collaborate and be open-minded. We are going to find innovate opportunities to run our business. We will continue to inspect our processes and programs. It's all about accountability. We need to operate smarter, faster and cheaper."